

THOMAS, THE RUNNER

The English Athlete Who Recently Came to America.

A. C. RANKER, THE BICYCLIST.

Kelly and His Muscle-Sketches of Albert Maul, of the Pittsburgh, and Carsey, of the Brooklyn.

The presence of Sidney Thomas, the famous English runner, in the United States this fall has added a certain zest to the autumn athletic contests. He is 21 years old, weighs 122 pounds, is 5 feet 7 inches tall and has a "raking" gait, which is remarkable for a man of his size.

He began running when 17 years of age as a member of the St. Paul's Harriers, but shortly afterwards cast his fortunes with the Ranelagh Harriers. He also became a member of the Premier club, the London Athletic club, and in July, 1888, he joined the Manhattan Athletic club. Thomas is a very quiet and unassuming athlete. He has never used liquor or tobacco in any form, and is a very strict and faithful trainer. As a rule he runs twice a day, and requires a lot of work to get into condition.

He has a splendid record as a runner. A list of his events would fill a column. In this year's Southern Cross Country association championship he finished first, and carried off second prize in the national contest. He also holds the four and two miles Amateur A. A. championship, and is the holder of the London A. C. ten mile championship cup, and also holds the Lancashire Harriers' Chilton challenge cup. Thomas has a record of 3 mi. 50. for ten miles, which is within 10 seconds of the world's record, held by W. G. George. He has run four miles in 20m. 30., which is faster than the American record, which stands 20m. 35. 4-5c. Thomas, although a member of the Manhattan Athletic club and eligible in every way to compete under its colors, elected to represent his London club in the championships on this side.

A. C. RANKER.

He is America's One Mile Champion Bicyclist.

A. C. Ranker, America's one mile amateur champion bicyclist, was born in Worcester, U. S. Dec. 3, 1864. He stands 5 feet 5 1/2 inches high and weighs 132 pounds when in condition.

He learned to ride in 1886 and his first mount was a 65-pound American Star. Ranker continued racing on Sept. 1, 1888, winning his first race, and second place in a one mile open. The next day in Pittsburgh he finished second in three scratch races with some of the fastest men in Pennsylvania.

On May 20, 1887, at Beaver Falls, Pa., he won one first and three seconds in open scratch races. July 20, of the same year, he finished second to his brother, W. D. Ranker, in a twenty mile road race, and Aug. 21 won the twenty-four mile road race from Washington, Pa., over the mountains to Brownsville, Pa. At Pittsburgh, on July, 1888, he won a first and second place, but was badly beaten by a club mate whom he considered vastly his inferior as a rider, and these defeats were the turning point in his career. He had never done any actual training before this, but he now determined to go into active training and either recover the ground lost or quit. W. D. Troy, his present trainer, took him in hand, and he improved so that on July 21 he won four straight firsts on the same grounds and against the same competitors.

The two brothers in the meantime made a try for the world's tandem bicycle record, making the mile in 2 min. 43.5 sec., just one-fifth second short of the record. At New Castle, Pa., Aug. 25, he was second to his brother in the one mile state championship in 2 min. 51 sec. He made the race all the way, going the first quarter in 33 sec., the half in 1 min. 17 sec., and the three quarters in 1 min. 57 sec. At this point every one had been left behind, except his brother, who was about seventy yards behind. He then very foolishly allowed him to come up, and was thus defeated by two inches in 2 min. 51 sec. At Buffalo, N. Y., from Sept. 4-10, the two brothers won thirty-four out of a possible thirty-eight prizes. At Lockport, N. Y., he won three firsts and two seconds, establishing a new record of 2 min. 57 sec. on a tandem bicycle.

In February, 1889, he went to New York city to take charge of the bicycle department of a business house. Ranker was the New York state championship on June 10, beating his other competitors by nearly a lap. July 4, at Hagerstown, Md., at the annual meet of the League of American Wheelmen, he easily won the one mile national championship, defeating Crist, Rich, Wilhelm and other noted riders. Aug. 16, at Richfield Springs, N. Y., he won four firsts—three in succession—among which was the five mile New York L. A. M. state championship. Ranker rides a fifty-five inch Columbia racer, and is a member of the Brooklyn Bicycle club, the Manhattan Bicycle club and the Berkeley Athletic club.

The Latest Style.

Cotton—You don't like those pants! Vy, they wear lined goods, custom made in latest style.

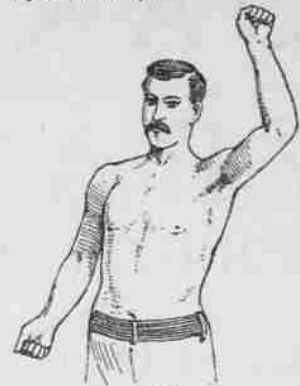
Customer—But see, the waist reaches to my shoulder blades.

Cotton (grimacing)—I told you so! Dot was one of those director's waist—latest style out—Lida.

KELLY'S MAGNIFICENT MUSCLE.

Sketches of Albert Maul, of the Pittsburgh, and Carsey, of the Brooklyn.

Not long ago The Boston Herald printed pictures, from photographs taken especially for that purpose, of the members of the Boston League team, stripped to the waist. One of them, Kelly, is given here in outline. Of Kelly The Herald says:



"Kelly is a powerful man of good stature. He holds first place in the size of his hips, chest rest, uninflated and inflated. His frame is large and heavy, as is seen by the measurement of his chest rest, 39 1/2 inches. He has a tremendous waist and can bat well. Kelly's batting method is quite distinct. He depends on the swing of the whole body, while Brothers swings from the hips up. Below the waist Brothers is not as large as would be expected, while Kelly is more evenly developed in the legs. In lung capacity he is not up to Gammel or Richardson."

Kelly's measurements, etc., are as follows: Age, 31; weight, 170 1/2; height, 5 11/16; neck, 16 1/4; circumference of shoulders, 45; muscles of chest, 42; chest rest, 39 1/2; chest inflated, 41 1/2; chest uninflated, 38 1/2; waist, 35 1/2; hips, 35 1/2; right arm up, 18 1/2; right arm down, 12; right fore arm, 11 1/4; left arm up, 18 1/2; left arm down, 12 1/2; left fore arm, 11 1/4; thighs, 23 1/2; calves, 15; long chest diameter, 12 1/2; short chest diameter, 8 1/2; lung capacity, 270.

Wilfred Carsey, the young and very promising pitcher, lately signed by the Brooklyn Baseball club, is now playing, with the consent of Mr. Claiborne H. Byrne, with the Metropolitan club. It is expected, says The Dramatic Times, that the experience he will receive from the old and tried players of that organization will materially aid him when he is called upon to face the strong batteries of the American association. Carsey was born in New York city Oct. 22, 1870. He has ample time, therefore, to grow up into the great prominence predicted for him by such good judges as Tim Keefe, Catcher Hooking, Jack Lynch and Billy Holbert, all of whom claim he is unquestionably the best young pitcher in the profession.

Carsey has plenty of speed, all the curves, and is a cool, nervy pitcher, who can pitch a cool steady game without getting rattled or discouraged by poor fielding. He is likewise a good batter and a base runner and an excellent fielder. He is a boy of good habits and does not drink or use tobacco in any form. His legion of admirers, who like him for his quiet ways and gentlemanly manners, wish him every success in the future.

A PITTSBURGH PLAYER.

Albert J. Maul, of the Pittsburgh club, whose portrait is given below, was born about twenty-four years ago in Philadelphia, according to The New York Clipper, and obtained his first knowledge of the national game with amateur teams of his native city. Starting in as a pitcher, he soon showed an aptness that gained quite a reputation for him, as he delivered a very speedy ball and had fairly good command of it. His first professional engagement was in 1885, when he played with the Rochester club and afterwards with the Binghamton team, both of the International league. He pitched in nineteen championship games in all that season, and ranked tenth in the official averages out of thirty-four men, while he took part in twenty-six games as a first baseman, and had the excellent fielding average of .959. In 1887 he joined the Nashville club of the Southern league. It was while with the Nashvilles that he gained a great reputation as a batter, pitcher and fielder, and his services at once became in brisk demand.

The Pittsburgh club first made a bid for his release, but for some cause it was a little slow, and the Philadelphia club stepped in and purchased his release. In the twenty-four championship games he took part in while with the Nashvilles he made a batting record of .484, and ranked at the head of the Southern league in the official averages. He played sixteen games in 1887 with the Philadelphia club and made thirty-two hits, with a total of forty-one bases, and also led the National league in the official batting averages, having a record of .450. He was given his base on balls many times, however, and that fattened his batting averages both in the Southern league and National league.

The Philadelphia club having more pitchers than it could use and having a surplus of fielders, agreed to sell his release to the Pittsburgh club, with which in 1888 he took part in seventy-three championship games. In thirty-seven games he guarded first base and in thirty-four he played in the outfield, making a fine record for each. As a first baseman his average was .968, and as an outfielder it was .942. He has shown up well for the Pittsburgh club this far this season both at the bat and in the field. As that club, however, has a surplus of fielders, he does not get a chance to play regularly, and therefore does not have the opportunity to display his ability as either a batter or fielder. He has given up pitching altogether.

A Philadelphia drummer got into a Lehigh Valley car at Shenandoah, Pa., and took out his teeth and put them on the seat behind him to take a nap. After the nap he went off, forgetting them. Agent Ferguson found them, and as a joke asked a Hungarian seated near if they were his. The Hungarian turned pale as death, vigorously shook his head and dashed out of the depot in thorough flight.

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